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OF THE

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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CONTENTS

Calendar of Events 2
President's Message 3
Letters to the Editor 8

The West

The Panama-Pacific Fair: *Le Travail Français* 4

World Numismatics

French Gold Issue Named Coin of the Year 7
Peru's Chincha Islands 10
Barbarians at the Gates 14

U.S. Numismatics

Graders Find a Peck of Coins 17
Another Point of View: Tokens Catalog a Treasure 18
A "Standard" Syngraphic Collection 20

Advertisers 22–24

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

• *Founded 1915* •

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

April 26, 1995, Wednesday at 8:00 PM: 949TH MEETING

Barbarous Radiates —Rick Webster

May 24, 1995, Wednesday, 8:00 PM: 950TH MEETING

The Hong Kong Mint —Larry Reppeteau

June 24, 1995, Saturday at 6:00 PM: ANNUAL BANQUET

80th Anniversary Banquet

Details will be announced in the Bulletin

Meetings are held the 4TH Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM

The Knights of Columbus Hall in San Francisco

2800 Taraval Avenue (1 BLOCK WEST OF SUNSET).

Guests Welcome.

Board Business Meetings are at 7:15, before the regular 8:00 meetings.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

STEPHEN M. HUSTON

Taking the Long View

ONCE UPON A TIME one of the *nouveau riche* of England asked the gardener on his neighbor's estate how they managed to have huge expanses of lawn which were perfectly smooth and level. The gardener looked at him for a few moments and replied, "you lay the turf, water it every other day, and run the lawn-roller to smooth it between waterings." The new neighbor replied that he had done that for months, but his lawns were still nothing like those of the older estate. The gardener smiled and said, "just keep at it about 400 years."

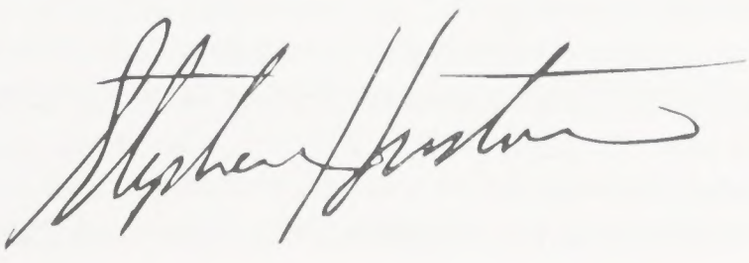
Numismatists have acquired a wealth of information from those who studied coins and medals in recent centuries. Some researchers have given us material which it is hard to imagine one person learning in a lifetime. The work of past scholars of the caliber of Crosby and Sheldon, or more recently Breen in U.S. numismatics, stagger us. The books left to us by the likes of Head, Mattingly and Sydenham are considered basic necessities for numismatic research in Greek and Roman areas. Author Michael Grant seems to have produced about a book per year since 1950 on ancient history and numismatics!

Some of these studies are short and of narrow scope. Others are massive tomes encompassing the entire world.

Many are the results of decades of research. Others were written quickly but drew on the knowledge acquired during a lifetime of study. All have one thing in common—their authors took the long view.

THE LONG VIEW requires seeing one's self in context as part of an endless chain of researchers and writers, going back hundreds of years, continuing through today into the indefinite future. Each of us who learns something about a coin or medal can be part of this chain of numismatic knowledge. To join this noble effort, all one needs do is add something to the information that others have already left to us and the future.

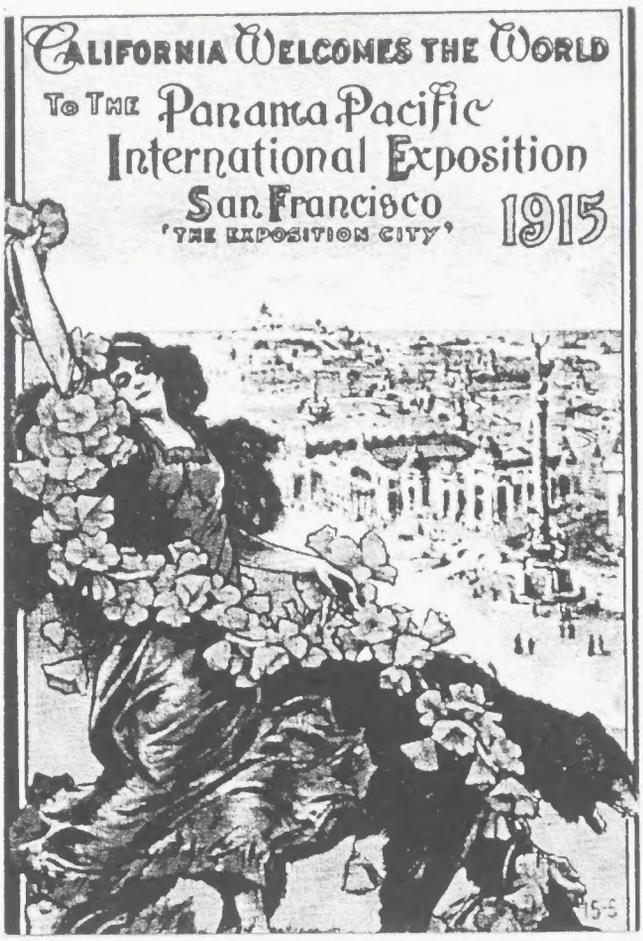
Write it down and share it. That's all it takes to join those who have taken the long view of numismatics—an ongoing study which no one will ever finish.



San Francisco Through Its Exonumia

by Jerry F. Schimmel

THE PANAMA-PACIFIC FAIR: *LE TRAVAIL FRANÇAIS*



Women wept and the men cheered. The French Pavilion opened on April 9, 1915, more than two months after the Chestnut Street gates were first pushed aside for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. World War I, then nine months along, delayed work on the French building until December, 1914, a time when the rest of the fair was virtually done. (The United States would not be part of the war for two years.) French exhibits had to be transported through combat zones, and were not even in place as the last hurrah echoed through the Pavilion courtyard. It was an accomplishment that France took part at all.

Emotions ran high in Frisco's French community after the German invasion of France and Belgium. Appropriate rhetoric was conveyed by Albert Tirman, French Commissioner General to the fair; Raphael Weill, a French-born San Franciscoite and founder of the old White House department store; and Mayor Jimmy Rolph. Speeches were windy and predictable, and the ardor of the crowd cooled as oratory warmed.

Across the fairgrounds at Fandango Hall, stern-faced officials were shutting down the '49 Camp roulette wheel. Provided to make the concession realistic, the device had succeeded beyond all expectations. At the same time two men were sought by the Secret Service in the Oregon Pavilion. Their gold washing demonstration had somehow metamorphosed into a counterfeit coin factory. Visitors to the exhibition were thus spared a day of unrelieved dignity.

THE ARGOSY OF THE JASON

The Navy's coal supply ship *U.S.S. Jason* brought adventure to the French story. Landing in San Francisco on April 11, after a voyage of 23,000 miles, its journey began the previous November in New York. Departing with an errand of Christmas mercy, it carried gifts from America to children in the war areas. English, Irish, French, German, Austrian, Hungarian, Montenegrin and Serbian kids were showered with dolls, toy wagons, hoops and balls. Besides aid to the tykes, two thousand Palestinian refugees were fed and the

French Pavilion Medal

cruisers *Tennessee* and *North Carolina* resupplied in port at Alexandria and Beirut in the Mediterranean.

The first exhibits came aboard in England. French shipments were next, requiring the *Jason* to move through British minefields and a German naval blockade. Near Marseilles, where French crates awaited the hoist, the vessel was stopped by a torpedo boat, its commanding lieutenant suspicious of the *Jason*'s intentions.

Less eventful calls were made at Austro-Hungarian, Italian and Spanish ports, where smaller cargos were moved below decks. The rest of the way took the *Jason* across the Atlantic without incident through the new Panama Canal, to land finally at the Broderick street Marina. (The name for San Francisco's Marina District originated with the fair's old dock area.)

Contemporary art hung on French Pavilion walls next to 16th Century *Gobelin* tapestries and *La Savonnerie* carpets from the national looms in Paris. Crusader armor and long swords stood side-by-side with Bren guns and gas masks from the trenches. Artifacts employed by men who aided the American Revolution like Rochambeau and Lafayette, were shown near a popular bronze plaque depicting Benjamin Franklin with King Louis XVI. One wing of the building was given to the Belgians, their country then almost entirely overrun by German troops.

THE FRENCH MEDAL

A box filled with bronze medals took up one corner of the Jason's hold. Once in place on the Pavilion information counter the metal souvenirs were sold to defray expenses of the exhibit. Each of them measured 51.2mm in diameter and had a plain edge with no raised rims. Diesinker initials and mint marks were absent, but presumably the medals were struck in Paris, and probably in something of a hurry. The example shown bears the following legend and design.

Obverse: Starting at the center left and reading clockwise around the rim is the legend PANAMA-PACIFIC-INTERNATIONAL-EXPOSITION-SAN-FRAN-

CISCO-CALIFORNIA-FEB-TO-DEC-A.D.1915. A male cherub stands in the center holding a torch in his left hand. To his left is the Tower of Jewels with rays behind. He stands on an unrolled parchment upon which is LIBERTE EGALITE FRATERNITE. His right hand lifts a drapery under which there is a map showing the Isthmus of Panama, the west coast of South America and the words PANAMA CANAL.

REVERSE: In the center is a front view of the French Pavilion above which the sun shines through a cloud formation. At the upper rim is the curved legend REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE, in the exergue the words SAN FRANCISCO CAL., AD, MDCCCXV in three lines.

French Pavilion

Demolition of the fair began right after the December closing, and, except for the Palace of Fine Arts, little remains of the P.P.I.E. except its uncountable photographs and souvenirs. The French Pavilion was located on the Avenue of Nations behind and southwest of the Fine Arts structure, near the present site of Letterman Army Medical Center. It copied Napoleon's *Palais de La Legion d'Honneur*, and according to some, provided the inspiration for San Francisco's museum in Lincoln Park of the same name.

SOURCES

San Francisco Chronicle and *San Francisco Examiner*, April 10-12, 1915.
The Story of The Exposition, Vols. I-V, by Frank Morton Todd, 1921.

French Gold Issue Named Coin of the Year

A French coin commemorating the bicentennial of the Louvre Museum has been named Coin of the Year for issues dated 1993 in a competition sponsored by *World Coin News*. The newspaper has been sponsoring the award for the past 12 years to encourage excellence in coin design. This is the second time a French coin has won.

The winner is a gold 500-franc that depicts the Louvre's most famous resident—the Mona Lisa—on the obverse. The reverse depicts the museum building with modern glass pyramids in the foreground. The reverse also carries the inscription "Bicentenaire du Musee du Louvre," the date, and denomination.

Letters to the Editor

CONFEDERATES WERE NOT A BIG WORRY

Editor,

I do not think the Confederate scare was that great. In June 1861, one Democratic state senator complained a month before he left to join the Confederate army that "this whole state" is "loudly for Coercion and War." Unionists dominated public opinion, controlled the press, and won all the statewide elections.

I would not—and do not— believe Asbury Harpending on anything, which includes his commission from Jefferson Davis. The *Cyane, et.al.* captured the *J.M. Chapman* on March 15, 1863; the trial began on September 28, 1863; and Lincoln's Proclamation of Amnesty was December 8, 1863.

William T. Sherman was general *before* Union Hall was built, and did not live in the City after the War. I wonder if your "William Sherman" was the Republican leader and Union Leaguer who manufactured clothing?

—Robert J. Chandler
Historical Officer, Wells Fargo Bank
San Francisco

BOOK REVIEW OPENS CAN OF WORMS

Reprints of the review on **The Standard Catalog of United States Tokens** *(PCNS Journal, January 1995) were distributed to a number of collectors noted for their interest in American tokens. Several comments were received about the article. None were solicited. Only those which were written are presented.*

Mr. Russell Rulau, compiler of the catalog, did not reply directly to the review, but instead sent a copy of an article done by a historian in Bowling Green, Kentucky. It appears on page 18 of this issue.

Editor,

Whooee! One whale of a perceptive and incisive review of Russell Rulau's latest potboiler. "Numismatic Grubb Street," *The Spectator* might have termed it.

Context is all, as someone better known than I must have said. That's what R.R. in retrospect appears never or neither to have understood or appreciated (or recognized).

Your excellent review warrants publication in the ANA's monthly, but I suspect that outfit lacks the guts to do so. Were I a member of same, I'd happily forward it to them for reprinting.

I have to wonder at what I think of as a heads-up outfit, the Civil War Token Society, collaborating on the mess.

One waspish observation: Given your on-target urging in the penultimate paragraph to reduce the size by ruthless editing, might not your closing declaration have read "...collectors deserve less," rather than "more?" Ho! Ho!

—Dana Roberts
Port Townsend, WA

Editor,

Thank you for the book review. Only one comment: BINGO!

—Eli Bail
San Jose, CA

Editor,

I read your comments about the *Standard Catalog of United States Tokens 1700-1900*. I don't know much about most of the categories in the book, but some of the so-called tokens, I don't consider to be tokens.

I reported on and sent photos of West Virginia tokens that I found to have been used in the 1869-1889 era, and a few in the 1890s. The 1890s section I could have expanded to over 100 West Virginia pieces if I had done a lot of research, but I was able to enlarge the section anyway.

I, too, found the Civil War Patriotic Tokens chapter a problem. I couldn't find a few of mine there.

I don't think that I would pay $45 for the book, but since Russell Rulau sent me a complimentary copy, I didn't have to.

I am working on a catalog of West Virginia tokens, which will list all known metal tokens except Coal Mine Scrip. It will probably cost as much as Rulau's book.

—Donald K. Clifford
St. Albans, WV

Editor,

Recently we had a little discussion here about Rulau catalogs and had come to the same result as you: that he is turning the token world into a numismatic junkbox. I do not feel any inclination to write about his books over here. We might risk getting some more books sold.

—Jørgen Sømod
Frederiksberg, Denmark

Editor,

Thanks for the review—very good. Rulau and Brunk too often follow the rule "let's put what we like" into tradition.

—Alan Judd
Coins of Beeston
Nottinghamshire, England

(*Ed. Note: Gregory Brunk is a well-known compiler of catalogs on counterstamped coins.*)

Editor,

Thanks for the copy of your review on Rulau's new catalog. I agree totally with your assessment of this mishmash. In addition to the faults you mentioned, there are many pieces listed in the wrong eras.

Prior to its publication, I sent Russ a list of additions and corrections compiled from my collection of New Jersey tokens. Curiously, none of them were incorporated in the new catalog even though he sent me a letter of thanks and listed me as a contributor.

Anyway, after examining a copy of this work, I didn't think it was worth the price of $45. Later I got one for $36.

—Al Zaika
Bellmawr, NJ

(*Editor's note: In a second letter, Mr. Zaika requested and received permission to reprint the review in a New Jersey collector's publication.*)

PERU'S CHINCHA ISLANDS:
Nineteenth Century Tokens from a Chinese Tradesman

BY PROFESSOR ERNESTO MELGAR S.

(Translated from the Spanish by Jerry Schimmel.)

It is the intention of this series to answer the questions we have asked about the existence of certain tokens—Who issued them? Where did they circulate? What purposes did they serve? In what historical, social and economic context were they used?—and partly to reconstruct their history. The basic information we obtain from their legends is that they refer to the proprietor responsible for honoring their economic value, that is to a commercial establishment, *hacienda*, mine or other type of business. Thus, one has to refer as well to information available from bibliographic and documentary sources, and if one is successful, one obtains enough evidence to write down these fragments that we propose to share with our readers.

Nevertheless, at times the available information negates concrete proofs, and then the investigator's education in other areas brings us to formulate interpretive hypotheses that justify the existence of a piece. Such is the case of the tokens discussed here.

THE QUMLIN TOKENS

Two pieces have been examined:

1. O: ISLA DE CHINCHA/ QUMLIN (In the center is a rosette surrounded by a circle of beads.)
   R: (Two branches, palm and laurel, are interlaced at the bottom. In the center are the words:) MEDIO/ REAL
   Metal: Brass, 20mm.
2. O: (Same as No. 1)
   R: UN/ REAL (within a wreath)
   Metal: Brass, 20mm.

By their design these tokens belong to a group traced to a time of monetary change between 1858 and 1864, characterized by the scarcity of fractional-value coins and coinciding with the time of major guano-extraction operations in the Chincha Islands. The evidence for this, especially for the *Medio Real* denomination, is that the reverse was used on tokens issued by Manuel Carbajal, Domingo de La C.Marquez and Casimiro Duenas in Pisco, each dated 1863 on the obverse.

The Qumlin *Medio Real* piece was described by don Luis de Aliaga, who attributed it to a transportation service between the port of Pisco and the guano islands, confusing it with a reference in Kenneth Smith's catalog (Peru #560A), which describes a steamship on the obverse, but does not mention Qumlin. Ecklund, for his part, in his listings of Latin American tokens, mentions a third variety of the Qumlin series in copper, one without palm and laurel branches and with the word *Medio* curved.

We can see now that a relationship exists between the Chincha Islands, the extraction of guano and the mysterious term, "Qumlin."

THE EXPLOITATION OF GUANO

The first contractors involved in mining guano met their labor needs using slaves, deserters, convicts and day workers—*enganchados* (literally the 'hooked ones')—who came from the mainland coastal districts. At the end of the 1840s, prior to the mounting international demand for fertilizer, the government intervened to separate the contracts for guano extraction from any related commercial enterprises.

The first concession was decreed for Domingo Elias, an influential politician and owner of *haciendas* in Ica Department. Simultaneously, under the law of November 1849, Elias and a Juan Rodriguez were authorized to contract for the immigration of Chinese laborers to work in the fields, on the guano islands and in domestic service exclusively for Lima and La Libertad departments for a fee of thirty *Pesos* a head. Thus Elias was assured of a permanent labor supply, docile and cheap, for his *haciendas* and islands, anticipating the abolition of slavery.

CHINCHA ISLANDS. Group of small islands in Pacific Ocean off coast of west central Peru, Ica Department; guano.

Webster's New Geographical Dictionary, Springfield MA (1972)

quá nō (gwah-), noun (plural -os). Excrement of sea-fowl found especially in islands off Peru used as manure. (Spanish, from native *huanu*.)

The Concise Oxford Dictionary, Oxford, England (1964)

"There was very little to laugh at in the Chinchas. They were three miserable islets, none more than a mile across, lying about fourteen miles offshore and about ninety miles from Callao. The steep-sided, jagged islands were volcanic in origin, but their porphyritic rock was buried deep under thousands of tons of bird droppings. In the center of the island the guano was two hundred feet thick. Where it had been dug away there appeared to be deep railroad cuts through light ochre hills. Scattered here and there were the wretched cane shanties of the Chinese coolies and their overseers.

"During the boom days of the fifties and sixties, the principal station was on North Island. Here a deputy commandant was stationed, a few soldiers and their women, some Negro drivers and hangers-on. The guano blew into all the huts leaving a heavily ammoniated yellow dust on everything. Nothing seemed to be able to live in it except fleas, lizards and the coolies."

from EMBARCADERO, by Richard H. Dillon (1959)

The Chinese presence in the Chinchas occurs with the beginning of their immigration in 1853, when more than 4,000 coolies arrived, 2262 working on North Island and 326 on Middle Island. Labor contracts were originally let for five years with a salary of one *Peso* a week, but the harsh conditions to which the coolies were subject, which today would qualify as slavery, provoked the authorship of a new legal mandate stating that service on the *Islas Huaneras* was not mandatory and that contracts must run for three years only with a salary of two *Pesos* per week.

LIFE ON THE ISLANDS

In spite of the great economic rewards yielded by the guano, the manual labor did not involve much more than one thousand men. Of these the major part were coolies, and the rest convicts, slaves and a few independent workers, management trying to keep labor costs down against eight *Pesos* a month for the Chinese, twelve for the convicts and just food and clothing for the slaves. The free workers received six to ten *reales* a day plus two extra for food and transport to the mainland. Hence, the preference for employing Chinese who also had the advantage of working every day of the year including Sundays.

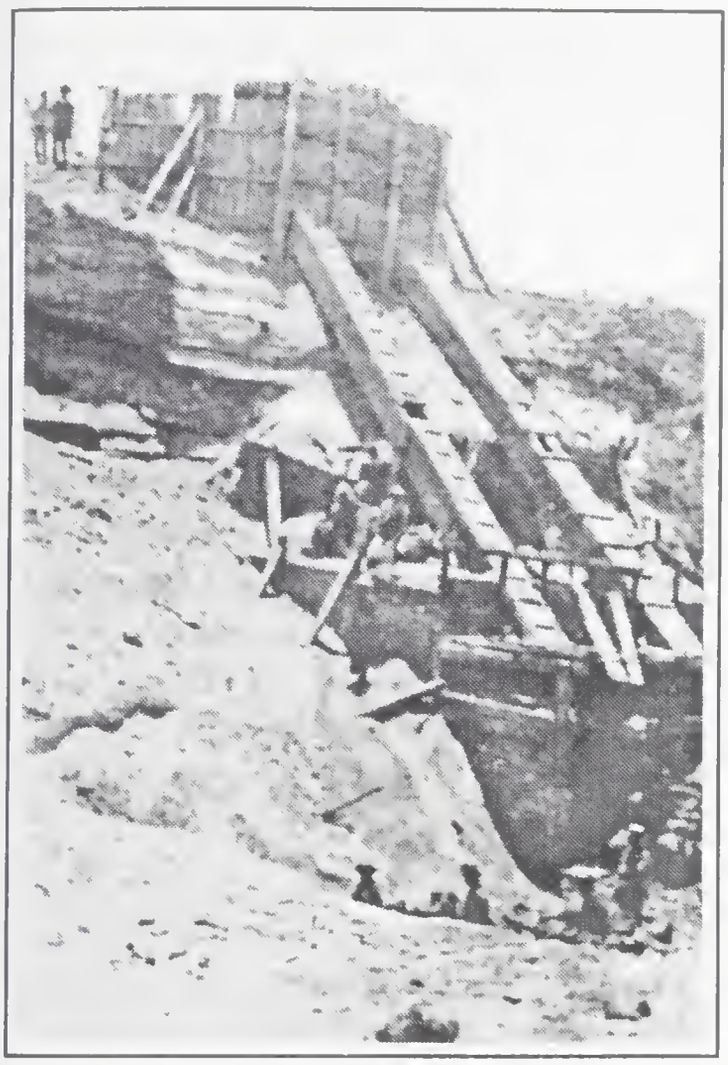
The guano activity was steadily generating the growth of a population which, in addition to the workers, brought shopkeepers and artisans who provided supplies and basic services. On the other hand, the presence of cargo ships lingering at the islands for two or three months to finish loading maintained a floating population of two to three thousand crew members, sailors, and partially-employed men who generated a demand for provisions, accomodation and entertainment.

Cecilia Mendez, in her thesis on the guano workers, has reconstructed the birth and daily life of the community that arose on the Chincha Islands on the basis of primary documentary sources, a community that, from 1853, included its own government, and which later added an *Intendencia* of Police, a Justice of the Peace and a Parish. Some idea of the islands' local development is shown through 1866 statistics, among which were mentioned 23 liquor establishments, two hotels, four billiard parlors and cafes, nineteen green gorcers, three butchers and general grocers, four other shops, one spice store, three bakeries, three lodging houses, two pharmacies, two shoemakers, three tailors, six laundries and a school.

TOKENS AS CURRENCY

The introduction of tokens into a local economy by shopkeepers by-and-large follows from two motives. The first is to keep ahead of the lack of sufficient circulating coins. The second is to secure a captive market ahead of the competition. In the Chincha Islands the appearance of tokens seems to have taken place since the beginning of guano extraction. Mendez mentions one subcontractor, Cipriano Roman, who furnished supplies on credit and was issuing tokens in 1848. She makes the point, "in the islands the usual coin of the Republic does not circulate, only that made up by the contractors."

As we have seen in the previous lines, until 1860 local commercial activity was intense, and in this atmosphere various types of economic devices were



Guano Recovery Site

employed. Indeed, now added to the Qumlin tokens and the supposed transportation piece, two tokens of *Medio* and *Un Real* with the name Jose Oleviera have been recorded.

THE CHINESE CONTRIBUTION

Conforming to what has been shown we are able to assume that Qumlin was one of the shopkeepers established on the island, and possibly one of the Chinese who arrived in the early years of immigration. The information available about the coolies who completed their terms of contract shows that many of them established themselves in the regions where they stopped work, establishing businesses to serve their countrymen and nearby communities. Thus, they opened inns, gambling casinos, grocery stores, and some even undertook the occupation of *enganchador* (labor procurer) to promote the re-hiring of their countrymen.

Although the great majority of Chinese immigrants suffered harshly just to survive, finally ending their lives incorporated into marginal urban groups where opium, gambling, malnutrition and tuberculosis consumed them, there were others who adapted and progressed. They created the basis for the Chinese colony that we know today, and which is a part of our cultural mosaic. Qumlin had to be one of them. The phonetic spelling of his name has no other means of explanation. If this supposition is correct, the tokens of Qumlin are the oldest Chinese presence in Peruvian numismatics.

• • •

Ernesto Melgar Salmon was a Professor and Vice-Rector of the National University of San Marcos in Lima, Peru. He is now retired. His article is reprinted from NUMISMATICA, No. 41, January-June 1992. The publication is the official journal of the Numismatic Society of Peru in Lima.

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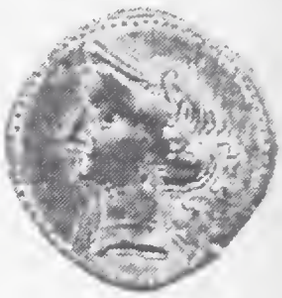
From the Idle Mind of Stephen M. Huston

Barbarians at the Gates

As a youth he swore eternal hatred for all things Roman. As a man he fought the Roman legions, inflicting their worst defeats in history. He arrived at the gates of Rome with his troops set to destroy the city. He failed.



HANNIBAL'S NAME SURVIVES IN HISTORY AND LEGEND. Even today, with our schools having abandoned classical education, the story of Hannibal is still taught to adolescents and remembered long after the rest of the history lesson is forgotten.

THE PUNIC WARS

Rome's wars with Carthage, known as *The Punic Wars*, began as territorial disputes. Rome won the first of them in 241 BC with the taking of Sardinia. Their last confrontation ended in 146 BC, with the destruction of Carthage. It is the *Second Punic War* which is most famous, for it encompasses the legendary activities of Hannibal.

Hannibal was the son of the Carthaginian General Hamilcar, who had fought the Romans in the first war. Hamilcar had then led an expedition into Spain, capturing territories on the northern side of the Mediterranean in 236. The Romans protested his incursions to the north shore of *the Roman lake*, but he claimed he was only collecting war debts from earlier years.

Hannibal's brother-in-law, Hasdrubal, was named to replace Hamilcar as leader of the Carthaginian forces in 229, and he established *Carthago Nova*, a Carthaginian settlement in Spain. Rome considered this city in violation of their treaties, but a new treaty was negotiated setting a boundary in Spain between Roman and Carthaginian territory in 226.

Hannibal had been raised to hate Rome, and his family had led the army for decades. When Hasdrubal was murdered in Spain in 221, Hannibal was placed in command of the forces. He and his younger brother, another Hasdrubal, began plans to move against Rome. They launched successful attacks against local Roman allies, leading to the outbreak of war with Rome in 219.

Hannibal's march on Rome was part of a long and well-planned offensive which depended on his own troops crossing the Alps, his brother's support by sea, and supplies from Carthage—all focused against the city of Rome from North, West and South. Years had been spent building up the troops, supplies and ships needed.

THE ELEPHANT MARCH

In 218, Hannibal marched from Carthago Nova toward Italy with over 40,000 troops and several dozen elephants. He arrived in Italy having lost a full third of his forces and animals. It is this famous passage through the mountains which has captured the imagination over the centuries.

Hannibal brought African elephants with Indian trainers on his march for one purpose. These animals, only about 8 feet tall, could be driven straight into the ranks of Roman troops, breaking up their heavily armed front and sending the Romans into confusion. They served a psychological purpose more than as weapons. In fact, after their initial success, the Romans learned to deal with them by opening paths in their ranks, which the elephants gladly followed, then closing ranks behind them, the Romans cut them off. It was only a matter of knowing what to expect. The element of surprise was lost along with more elephants as the Romans anticipated their charge.

Hannibal's other tactics had long-term success however. He would often feign retreat and lead the pursuing Romans into ambushes, or simply lie in wait in an advantageous position. These tactics allowed him to wipe out entire Roman forces on several occasions, throwing the Roman Senate into panic to the point that they were changing command of their forces faster than the troops could be informed of the changes.

His initial successes, leading right up to Rome, did not prepare Hannibal to take the city without help. He lacked siege equipment, but anticipated reinforcements and supplies by sea. They did not arrive. His brother had been cut off from sending naval support, and Hannibal was on his own without a supply line of any kind in the middle of a foreign land. His victories in the field slowed as the Romans realized it was safer to sit and wait rather than going out to meet his forces.

Hannibal's silver fractional shekel struck in Italy

It was a long wait. Hannibal decided to use the land around Rome and to its southeast for provision, also cutting Rome off from those supplies. He captured the town of Capua, about 150 miles from Rome, and used it as his long-term base of operations from about 216. He occupied the countryside—raiding the supplies on which Rome had relied in the past. He kept up these tactics for years.

In 207, Hasdrubal finally reached Italy, but was killed in battle. Hannibal was gradually retreating to the south as Roman forces began to gain the advantage.

ENTER SCIPIO

Meanwhile, Scipio, the Roman General who had tied up Hasdrubal in Spain for so long, moved into Africa, and Carthage itself was facing attack. In 203, Hannibal left Italy after more than 15 years, returning to Carthage to fight Scipio there.

Scipio had learned tactics first used by Hannibal, and used them

successfully in his offensives against Carthage, defeating them in 202. Scipio's victory over Carthage earned him the honorific title *Africanus*.

BARBARIANS AT THE GATES

Carthage in the person of Hannibal represented the barbarians literally at the gates of Rome. A few years later, the tide had turned and Scipio Africanus marched on Carthage, also viewed by the defenders of that metropolis as barbarian forces at the gates. Both of these great generals earned their places in history, but there are few non-Italians who can tell you why Scipio is famous. Still, though never achieving his goal of destroying Rome, and eventually losing the war, Hannibal is known by all.

Hannibal's bronze coin of Italy

THE COINS

Hannibal struck coins while in Italy. The captured city of Capua had a treasury which Hannibal requisitioned. His forces included many Italian mercenaries who demanded payment, and he acquired some supplies by purchase. His coinage is known in gold, silver and bronze, of which a silver and bronze coin are shown.

Scipio's bronze coinage in Spain struck at Carthago Nova

Scipio struck a coin during his time in Spain as the Roman commander of the territory while fighting Hasdrubal. It is one of the earliest coins issued under a Roman authority to bear a portrait—of Scipio himself.

All of the coins associated with the main contenders in the Second Punic War are rare, but they add an incomparable bit of history to any collection.

The bronze coin shown next to the titles was struck during Hannibal's campaign, probably at his base of operations at Carthago Nova in Spain. All coin photos are actual size.

Graders Find Peck of Coins

Laborers Fight for What Proves to be Bogus Money

Los Angeles, Sept. 16— A gang of graders at work on what will ultimately be a broad driveway to the ocean, known as Sunset boulevard, unearthed today more than a peck of coins. They were using a plow and following it with a scraper, when the plow struck a pocket in the earth containing the coins.

There was a rush by the score or more of men in the gang to get all of it they could reach. Several fights resulted, but within a minute all of the supposed rich find had been gathered up, some of the men having their hats full of it. Henry Klages, on whose land the men were working, was attracted by the noise and when shown some of the coins he dashed the hopes of the men to the ground by declaring all of them counterfeit. All of the coins were then placed in a pile and a close examination of them made. There were several quarts of them in $1, $5 and $10 pieces. In size they were slightly smaller than genuine, but this difference would be made up in the operation of plating them with gold or silver, and such was evidently the purpose of the men who made them.... During the past few months the city has been the scene of operations of a gang of counterfeiters and, although the secret service officials have been working hard on the cases, they have as yet made no arrests.

—from the *San Francisco Call*, September 17, 1903

In response to the book review on The Standard Catalog of United States Tokens, which appeared in the January Journal, compiler Russell Rulau sent a copy of the review below in place of written comments. It appeared in the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Daily News, on Sunday, February 5, 1995. *See pages 8–9 for letters.*

TOKENS CATALOG A TREASURE

Standard Catalog of United States Tokens, 1700-1900, by Russell Rulau. Krause Publications, 700 E.State St., Iola Wis. 54990-0001, 1994. 824 pages, $45 (paperback). Reviewed by Richard D. Weigel, history department, Western Kentucky University.

Tokens usually are made of copper, silver or brass. Although some look very much like coins, they are unofficial issues that frequently advertised a private business and sometimes served in place of small change in times of metallic scarcity. Just as with coins, they are collectible and offer connections to individual American cities and states that official issues seldom provide.

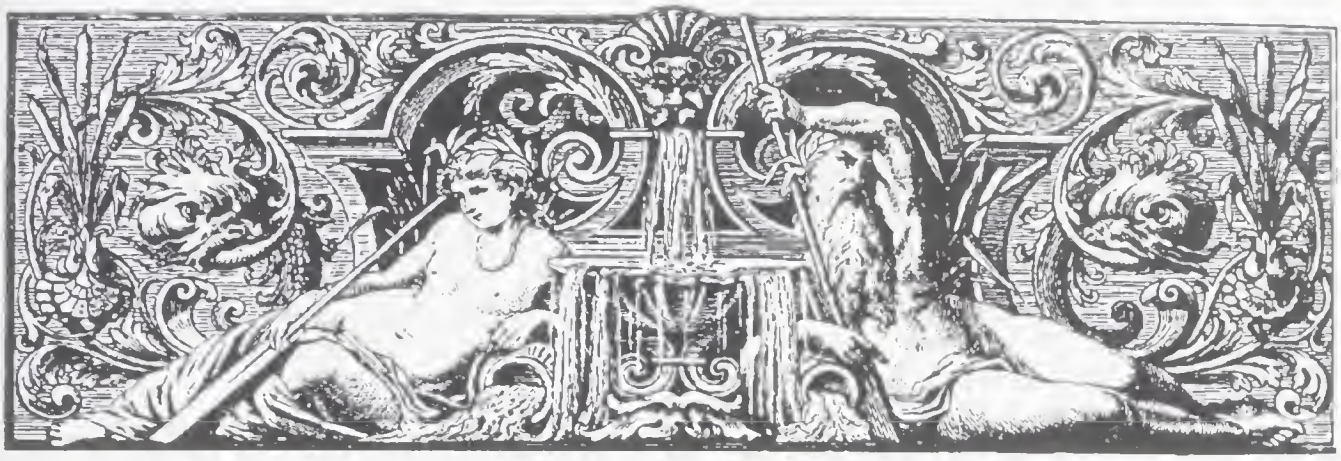
The special value of Russell Rulau's STANDARD CATALOG OF UNITED STATES TOKENS is that it combines several separate works that he has done on different kinds of tokens into one volume that now is the standard work on tokens. It provides updated prices and background information throughout.

Although most of the volume's tokens were issued in the 19th century, there are a few examples from the 18th. One of these is an extremely rare Kentucky piece valued at more than $5,000 and issued in 1796 by Philip Parry Price Myddelton, an Englishman who lured hundreds of his countrymen to emigrate to Kentucky before his arrest by British authorities. The token, struck in copper or silver, shows a woman and two nude boys being welcomed by Liberty on one side and a seated Britannia with shield and downcast head on the other.

Other sections of Rulau's catalog feature the Hard Times tokens of the 1830s and 1840s, merchant issues from 1845 to 1860, patriotic and store card tokens of the Civil War, trade tokens from the post-war industrialization period from 1866 to 1889, and Gay Nineties issues for "nickel beers, nickel cigars, band concerts in the park, reunions of the G.A.R., bustles and bowler hats, and the dawn of American imperialism with quick victory in the Spanish American War."

Another Kentucky example, from 1850, advertises itself as "Kentucky currency" and sports a logo for Salt River Bourbon, by S.T. Suit, Distiller from Jefferson County. The bourbon is naturally labeled "For Medicinal Use Only." A New York token admits the bearer to the Druidical Exhibition and the reader might wonder exactly what the Druids on exhibition did for an encore, but even in the 19th century New York was "different."

Rulau's STANDARD CATALOG OF UNITED STATES TOKENS is essential for tokens collectors and good reading for anyone interested in the business advertising of numerous American cities or in humorous slogans of the 19th Century. And if anyone finds one of those Myddelton tokens in the attic, please let me know.



AUTHORS' ATTENTION!

The deadline for the next issue of *The Journal* is June 1, 1995.

All copy should be submitted in one of the following formats:

- Typed double-spaced on letter-sized paper, or
- On 3.5" computer disk in any Macintosh format with a printout copy as above.
- On 3.5" computer disk in IBM *text-only* format (ASCII) with a printout copy as above.

If you have questions about computer formats, phone Stephen Huston at 415/781-7580.

Please submit all material to the editor; address inside front cover.

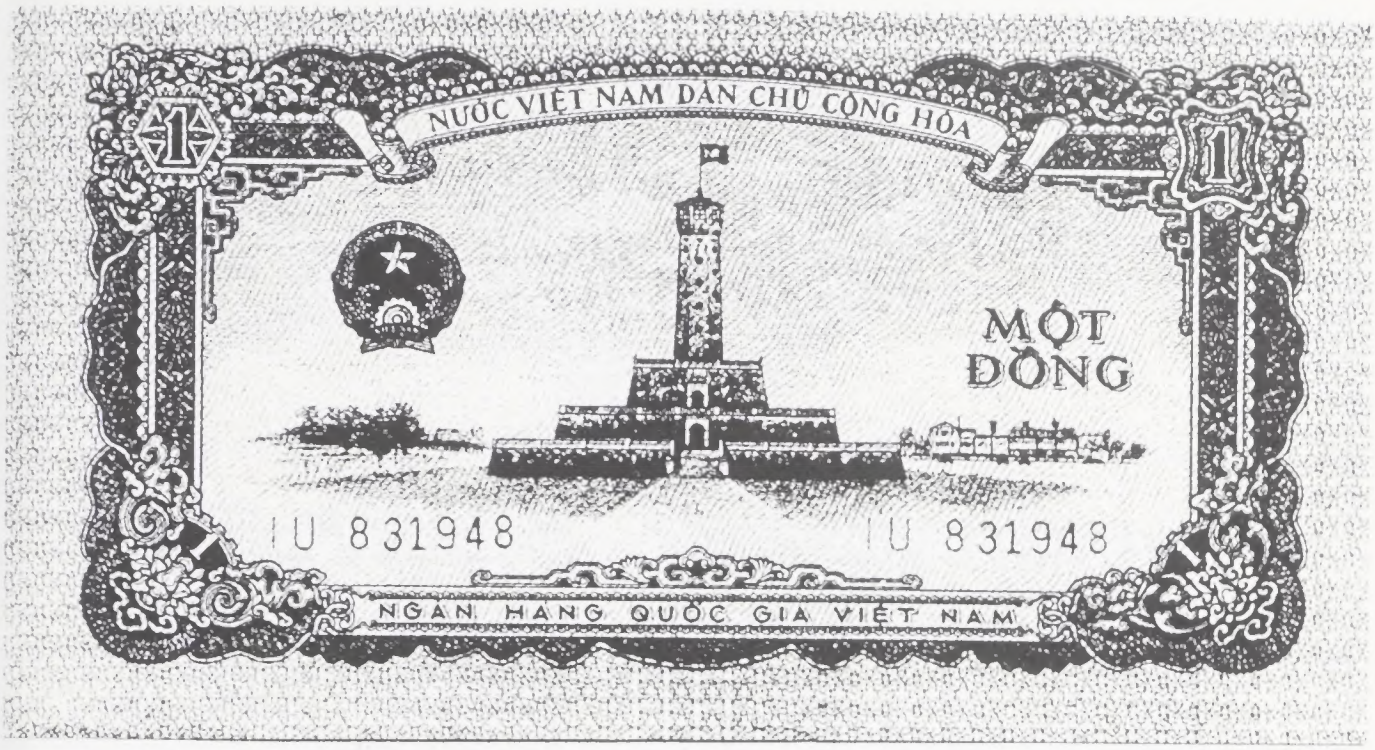
THE SYNGRAPHICS SCENE

- BY KEN BARR -

A "Standard" Syngraphic Collection

Due to new numismatic commitments, I need to cut back some existing activities, one of which will be this column. I've enjoyed writing the past seven years of columns, and hope they have been similarly enlightening for the readers. This final piece, appropriately, enumerates one opinion as to what should be included in a "standard" syngraphic collection. All items are, of course, subject to the decision of the final arbiter—the individual collector—since there is no single answer to the question of what should be included and excluded. Nevertheless, here's a suggested starting point:

1. One piece of Continental currency (advanced collection: one piece of each denomination, one piece of each date)
2. One piece of Colonial currency (advanced collection: one piece from each colony)
3. One note from the Bank of the United States, 1791-1837
4. One obsolete bank note, 1837-1860 (advanced collection: one from each decade, one from each state/territory)
5. One state bank note (advanced: one from each state which issued this type of note)
6. One of each of the major types of large size currency: Demand Note, United States Note, Silver Certificate, Treasury Note, Gold Certificate, Federal Reserve Note, Federal Reserve Bank Note (advanced: one each of the lesser-known types—Compound Interest Treasury Note, Interest Bearing Note, Refunding Certificate). Be sure to include at least one "star" or replacement note.
7. One each large and small National Bank Note (advanced: one of each charter period, one of each denomination)
8. One of each of the types of small size currency: United States Note, Silver Certificate, Gold Certificate, Federal Reserve Bank Note, Federal Reserve Note, Hawaii overprinted note, North Africa Emergency silver certificate, 1935-A Experimental silver certificates ("R" and "S"). At least one "star" note should be included here as well.
9. One piece of fractional currency (advanced: one of each series, one of each denomination)
10. One each Confederate States of America note and bond (advanced: CSA denomination or major type set)
11. One of each of the following items: check, draft, promissory note, including at least one plain, one with an adhesive revenue stamp and one with an imprinted revenue
12. One each of the following items: Military Payment Certificate, Allied Military Currency, stock certificate, bond certificate, Depression Scrip, advertising note, advertising scrip, political/satirical note, engraved political convention ticket, engraved exposition ticket, lottery ticket (both colonial and modern!).



Counterfeit note issued during the Vietnam War

Philippines currency under United States sovereignty, a few selected foreign notes, a prepaid telephone card and souvenir cards from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the American Bank Note Company.

The more adventuresome syngraphist can easily add more: an encased postage stamp, a Ming dynasty note printed on mulberry bark, a piece of macerated currency, a food stamp (or gas ration coupon), and a Nazi counterfeit note from Operations Andrew/Bernhard. Additional non-paper currency items can be added, such as depression scrip printed on wood, sheepskin, leather, clamshells, etc. Also individually collectable (in addition to being indispensable reference materials) are the books *100 Year History of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing* and *History of the American Bank Note Company.*

Again, the above list should be taken simply as a guide, with each syngraphist's collection filling out according to his or her specific interest. Those focused on governmental issues will undoubtedly spend more time and money on type notes, nationals, fractionals, etc., while those more interested in the overall fiscal aspects will be more interested in stocks and bonds, checks and drafts, etc. It certainly makes sense, however, for a well-rounded syngraphist to be familiar with all of the above items, plus a few more not mentioned. Above all, be sure to buy syngraphic items for their pure enjoyment, not simply to "fill a hole" as many of our metal-oriented brethren are prone to do. Happy hunting!

REFERENCES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING

100 Year History of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Government Printing Office, 1962.

William Griffiths, *History of the American Bank Note Company*, 1959.

Gene Hessler, *The Comprehensive Catalog of United States Paper Money*, BNR Press.

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— LONGFELLOW

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